UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT for the Southern District of New York

HASSAN CRAWFORD * Case No.

Plaintiff, * COMPLAINT

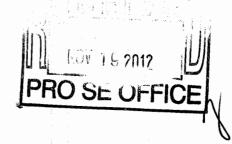
* PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL

* BY JURY

TEK COLLECT, *
DOE'S 1-10, *

Defendants. *

Case Number:



COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT, THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE NEW YORK CONSUMER COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE FLORIDA DECEPTIVE AND UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES ACT, INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS, and DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL and INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

COME NOW, the PLAINTIFF, Hassan Crawford respectfully requests this Court to issue Declaratory Judgment, Preliminary and Permanent Injunctive Relief and Damages. In support thereof, Plaintiff shows unto the Court as follows:

This is a civil action whereby Plaintiff seeks Preliminary and Permanent Injunctive Relief enjoining Defendants, TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 and other conspirators, agents, servants and employees and those acting in active concert and with actual notice thereof, from engaging in further violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (General Business Law 380-b, also General Business Law article 25,the Fair Debt collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. § 1692 et. seq. (hereafter "FDCPA")), the New York Consumer Collection Practices Act (§601 (hereafter "NYCCPA")), and the New York Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act (General Business Law §§349-350 (hereafter "UDAP")). An actual controversy exists between the parties, in that the challenged actions of the DEFENDANTS have caused and will continue to cause the PLAINTIFF substantial harm unless the requested relief is granted.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. Jurisdiction of this court arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1681p and 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331. Declaratory relief is available pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201.
- 2. Venue is proper, because many of the relevant events occurred within New York and New York Counties in the State of New York, which is located within this District.
- 3. Plaintiff's Federal and State Law claims against the Defendants derive from a common focus of operative fact and are of such character that Plaintiff would ordinarily be expected to try them in one judicial proceeding. Consequently, this court has pendent jurisdiction over Plaintiff's State law claims against the Defendants.
- 4. This is an action brought by a consumer for violations of the above named Acts in connection with a purported debt appearing on Plaintiff's consumer reports, the defendants' collection tactics in attempting to collect it, and the defendants' refusal to remove or correct inaccuracies regarding it, despite written correspondence specifying the inaccuracies and providing information that would facilitate a reasonable reinvestigation of the matter. Thus, the plaintiff seeks damages and, to the extent possible, injunctive and declaratory relief.

PARTIES

- 5. The Plaintiff is a natural person residing within New York County, in New York.
- 6. The Defendant(s) TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 is a business that is uses instruments of interstate commerce to facilitate the collecting of debts owed or asserted to be due another.
- 7. The Defendant(s) DOE'S 1-10 are employees of the Defendant TEK COLLECT and were at all times relevant to this complaint using instruments of interstate commerce to facilitate the collection of debts owed or asserted to be due another on behalf of both TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10.
- 8. The Defendant(s) is a collection agency for the TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 during the period inclusive of 2003 to present.
- 9. The Defendants, DOE'S 1-10, are employees of TEK COLLECT, during the period extending from June 2003 through present, and acted as the duly authorized agents for their employers.
- 10. All Defendants are considered a "person", under Black's Law dictionary's definition of "person".

FACTS

- 11. Plaintiff pulled credit report on and around October 2011.
- 12. Plaintiff faxed a validation notice on and around November 2011 and received no response.
- 13. Plaintiff faxed a second validation letter on and around October 2012.

COUNT 1- VIOLATION OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 14. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 13 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 15. The defendants TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 are debt collectors, as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).
- 16. The defendants TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 violated the FDCPA by:
- 17. Multiple violations of § 1692e (2)(a) and 1692e(10) for the false representation of the character, amount, or legal status of any debt
- 18. Violations of § 1692e (communicating information which is known to be false
- 19. The foregoing violations of the FDCPA are among the Defendants' standard procedures and practices towards consumers such as the Plaintiff, for which the Defendants are motivated by enhanced profits.

COUNT 2- VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT

- 20. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 13 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 21. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 regularly and in the course of business, furnishes information to one or more consumer reporting agencies about their transactions or experiences with any consumer.
- 22. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 did not notify the plaintiff at any time that the dispute was considered frivolous or irrelevant, or that plaintiff had failed to provide sufficient information to investigate the disputed information.
- 23. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 failed to review all relevant information provided by the consumer reporting agencies, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681i (a)(2), and as required by 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b)(1)(B).
- 24. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 failed to adequately conduct an investigation with respect to the disputed information, as required by 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b)(1) after the Plaintiff's notice of dispute was received at the offices of Collection Agency.

- 25. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 failed to report the results of the investigation findings to the consumer reporting agencies that the information provided by such person was incomplete or inaccurate, as required by 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b)(1)(D).
- 26. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10., failed to report the results of the investigation to the consumer reporting agencies, as required 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b)(1)(C).
- 27. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 in response to the notices of reinvestigation from the Credit Reporting Agencies, verified that the disputed information was accurate and complete on four different occasions, even though they were in possession of information which showed that the tradelines were inaccurate, and even though the tradelines did not contain the notice of dispute, as required by 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(a)(3). The fact that this was done in response to multiple reinvestigation requests from multiple Credit Reporting Agencies and the Plaintiff is evidence of willful noncompliance on the part of Collection Agency Inc.

COUNT 3- VIOLATIONS OF THE NEW YORK CONSUMER COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 28. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 13 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 29. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 violated New York Statute (§601 (hereafter "NYCCPA")), by telling the Plaintiff that they had disclosed to the credit reporting agencies information affecting the plaintiff's reputation for credit worthiness without also informing the plaintiff that the existence of the dispute would also be disclosed.
- 30. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 violated (§601 (hereafter "NYCCPA")), by disclosing to Equifax information affecting the plaintiff's reputation, whether or not for credit worthiness, with knowledge or reason to know that information was false.
- 31. The Defendants TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10, violated New York Statute (§601 (hereafter "NYCCPA")), by disclosing to information affecting the Plaintiff's reputation, whether or not for credit worthiness, with knowledge or reason to know that information was false.
- 32. The Defendants TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10, violated New York Statute (§601 (hereafter "NYCCPA")), as evidenced by the fact that TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10, while acting as authorized agents for their employers, each disclosed information affecting the plaintiff's reputation, whether or not for credit worthiness, with knowledge or reason to know that information was false.
- 33. TEK COLLECT, DOE'S 1-10 failed to enact reasonable rules, policies, procedures, or training to prevent their agents and employees from carrying out such destructive and deleterious actions.

- 34. The Defendants each separately and individually violated (§601 (hereafter "NYCCPA")), by disclosing information concerning the existence of a debt known to be reasonably disputed by the Plaintiff without disclosing that fact.
- 35. The Defendants each separately and individually violated New York Statute (§601 (hereafter "NYCCPA")), by claiming, attempting, or threatening to enforce a debt when they each knew or had reason to know that the debt was not legitimate.

COUNT 4- VIOLATIONS OF THE FLORIDA DECEPTIVE AND UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES ACT

- 36. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 13 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 37. The actions stated herein and carried out by the defendants were violations of Florida State and Federal Law, and are therefore unfair and/or deceptive trade practices as defined by state statute (General Business Law §§349-350 (hereafter "UDAP")).
 38. Unfair and/or deceptive trade practices are a violation of the New York Deceptive and

Unfair Trade Practices Act pursuant to (General Business Law §§349-350 (hereafter "UDAP")).

COUNT 5- INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

- 39. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 13 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 40. The Defendants intended to and did inflict severe emotional distress upon Plaintiff by engaging in actions that intended to harass, belittle, confuse, mislead and threaten the Plaintiff, the purpose of which was to intimidate and coerce the Plaintiff into paying a debt which was not legitimately owed, and conspired to systematically deny the Plaintiff his right to dispute the legitimacy and validity of a claimed debt.
- 41. The Defendants attempted to take advantage of a consumer reasonably unable to protect his interests because of an assumed ignorance and an inability to understand the legal issues and other factors involved, and therefore acted with unconscionable intent.

REQUESTED RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff respectfully requests relief as follows:

- (A) For preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, enjoining all of the named Defendants and other conspirators from engaging in further violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the Fair Debt collection Practices Act, the New York Consumer Collection Practices Act, and the New York Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act
- (8) For preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, enjoining all of the named Defendants and other conspirators from
- Selling, transferring, reporting, or otherwise assigning the above named account to any other collection agency, debt collector, reseller or Credit Reporting Agency.
- Attempting to place the Plaintiff on any "deadbeat list," or attempting in any way to impugn the Plaintiff's reputation as a tenant of as a consumer in connection with any and all transacti carried out or related to the afgrementioned debt.
- (C) For an order awarding actual damages in the following amount:
- Against TEX COLLECT, in the amount of \$200.
- 2. Against DOE'S 1-10, in the amount of \$200.
- (D) For an order awarding statutory damages in the following amou
- 1. Against TEK COLLECT, for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, in the amount of \$1,000; for violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act; in the amount of \$4,000; for violations of the New York Consumer Collection Practices Act, in the amount of \$1,000
- Against DOE'S 1-10, for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, in the amount of \$1,000; for violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, in the amount of \$4,000; for violations of the New York Consumer Collection Practices Act, in the amount of \$1,000.
- E) For an order awarding punitive damages as follows:
- Against TEX COLLECT, in the amount of \$15,000
- Against DOE'S 1:10, in the amount of \$15,000.

And for such other and further relief as the court deems just and proper under th

ALL RIGHTS & LIBERTIES RESERVED

By: Hossam Crawford DOA HASSAN CRAWFORD GENERAL DELIVERY
NEW YORK, NY 10001

(914) 356-8647

Pate: October 26, 2012

Annual Credit Report.com

▶ Return to AnnualCreditReport.com

Frequently Asked Questions

Contact AnnualCreditReport.com

Equifax

Your Annual Equifax Credit Report

Get Started >> Verify >> View Report

Equifax understands the importance of keeping your information secure from unauthorized Equifax Secure Site access. All of your data, such as your SSN and Card Number, is encrypted before being transmitted to/from our servers. For your security, this site requires the use of a 128-bit SSL compatible browser.

Equifax Credit ReportTM

Back

Print This Page Save as PDF Member Center

- 1. Credit Summary
- 2. Accounts
- 3. <u>Inquiries</u>
- 4. Negative Information
 - Negative Accounts
 - · Collections
 - · Public Records
- 5. Personal Information
- 6. Dispute File Information
- 7. Summary of Your Rights Under the FCRA
- 8. Remedying the Effects of Identity Theft

Equifax Credit Report TM for Hassan A. Crawford



As of:

11/19/2012

Available until: 12/19/2012 - Report Does Not Update

Confirmation #:

2824313237



Correct errors in your Credit Report Initiate Online Dispute >



Did you know that your free annual credit report does not include your credit score? Know where you stand by getting your credit score today.

Order your Equifax Credit ScoreTM with this credit report for only \$7.95



TEK-COLLECT, INC

1111 Schrock Rd

Agency Address:

PO Box 26390

Columbus, OH 432260390

(614) 835-7808

Date Reported:

07/2010

Date Assigned:

05/2009

Creditor Classification:

Retail

Creditor Name:

CHIROPRACTIC LIFESYLE CLINIC

Accounts Number:

203XXXX

Account Owner:

Individual Account.

Original Amount Owned: \$626

Date of 1 st Delinquency: 01/2009

Balance Date:

07/2010

Balance Owned:

\$662

Last Payment Date:

N/A

Status Date:

07/2010

Status:

D - Unpaid

Comments:

N/A